

What You Pay For Sports

Major sports leagues earn

The Numbers

The web app on this site's front page calculates your share of each TV rights contract by using two key statistics:

- The yearly payout of each television contract, and
- The number of subscribers for each cable network (as of October 2015, according to Nielsen).



The formula for determining yearly revenue of a cable network is **Subscriber Fee X Number of Homes X 12**. Here's the table we currently use to determine how much money each cable network earns every year:

Network	Subscriber Fee (monthly)	Number of homes (thousands)	Annual Revenue (millions)
ESPN	\$6.61	91,772	\$7,27
ESPN2	\$0.83	91,679	\$913
ESPNU	\$0.22	71,445	\$188
TNT	\$1.65	93,294	\$1,84
TBS	\$0.85	94,602	\$965



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Network	Subscriber Fee (monthly)	Number of homes (thousands)	Annual Revenue (millions)
Tru TV	\$0.10	90,023	\$108
Fox Sports 1	\$0.99	84,434	\$1,00
Fox Sports 2	\$0.28	47,827	\$161
NBC Sports Network	\$0.30	83,623	\$301
CBS Sports Network	\$0.26	61,000	\$190
BeIN Sport USA	\$0.10	18,793	\$22
Galavision	\$0.04	68,117	\$33
NFL Network	\$1.31	69,032	\$1,08
MLB Network	\$0.26	66,564	\$208
NBA TV	\$0.29	53,933	\$188
NHL TV	\$0.32	37,400	\$144
Big Ten Network	\$0.39*	79,250	\$371
Pac-12 Network	\$0.39	12,300	\$58
SEC Network	\$0.66*	69,100	\$547
Golf Channel	\$0.35	77,077	\$324

Sources: [SNL Kagan via Clay Travis](#), Nielsen via [TV By The Numbers](#) and [Sports Business Journal](#)

* – Numbers for Big Ten Network and SEC Network are

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estimated based on homes inside and outside of conference territories. Homes within Big Ten states, including New York and Maryland, pay \$1.00/month for BTN. Homes within SEC states pay \$1.30/month for SECN.

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Turner Turner
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Of course, the total revenue only matters in terms of how much a network can spend. The equation in the web app only considers the number of homes (i.e., the number of paying subscribers) each network has. We then **divide the dollar amount of each contract by the number of subscribers a network has**. That's the share of your cable bill that goes to each pro league and college conference.

Here's the latest data we have on contracts the networks have with various leagues and conferences. These numbers apply to the current or upcoming seasons for each league, and they will be updated as new seasons begin.

League ⬆	Network ⬆	Yearly Payment (Millions) ⬆	Contract Expires ⬆
NFL	ESPN	\$1,900	2022
MLB	ESPN	\$700	2021
MLB	Fox Sports	\$500	2021
MLB	Turner (TBS)	\$350	2021
NBA	ESPN	\$600	2016
NBA	Turner (TNT)	\$330	2016
NHL	NBC	\$200	2021
MLS	ESPN	\$45	2022
MLS	Fox Sports	\$30	2022

League	Network	Yearly Payment (Millions)	Contract Expires
MLS	Galavision	\$15	2022
FIFA	Fox Sports	\$53	2022
EPL	NBC	\$83.3	2016
UEFA	Fox Sports	\$30	2018
UEFA	ESPN	\$15	2016
NASCAR	NBC	\$440	2022
NASCAR	Fox Sports	\$300	2022
UFC	Fox Sports	\$90	2018
BCS / CFP	ESPN	\$610	2026
NCAA	CBS* / Turner	\$771	2022
NCAA	ESPNU	\$42	2024
ACC	ESPN	\$240	2027
Big Ten	ESPN	\$100	2016
Big Ten	Big Ten Network	\$112	2032
Big Ten	CBS*	\$12	2017
Big Ten	Fox Sports	\$24	2016
Big 12	ESPN	\$110	2025
Big 12	Fox Sports	\$90	2025
Pac-12	ESPN	\$103	2024
Pac-12	Fox Sports	\$91	2024

League	Network	Yearly Payment (Millions)	Contract Expires
Pac-12	Pac-12 Network	\$60	Unknown
SEC	ESPN	\$150	2024
SEC	CBS*	\$55	2024
SEC	SEC Network	\$77	Open-ended
American Athletic	ESPN	\$18	2020
Big East	Fox Sports	\$42	2026
Conference USA	CBS Sports Network	\$7	2016
Conference USA	Fox Sports	\$7	2016
Mountain West	CBS Sports Network	\$12	2020
Mountain West	ESPN	\$6	2020

* – CBS’ deals with the NCAA, Big Ten, and SEC are for its broadcast network, not its cable channel.

+ – Pac-12 numbers are for 2014-15 season only and will escalate based on [this table](#).

We are always looking for updated information to improve our app. At the moment, here are some specific items we’re seeking:

- Payout information for the Pac-12 Network. (i.e., the amount of its income that actually goes to the schools.)
- Accurate numbers on Fox Sports’ deals with UEFA for the U.S. TV rights for the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League.

- Data on BeIN Sport USA: Terms of their deals with La Liga, Serie A, Ligue 1, etc.

If you have information on any of these items, or if you have updated information on carriage fees and subscribers for any network, feel free to drop us a line at numbers@whatyoupayforsports.com.

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